

**Order No. 11-10-14**  
**Plumas National Forest**  
**Forest Service Road 24N28 Closure**

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(b), and to provide for public safety, the following act is prohibited on the Plumas National Forest. This Order is effective from July 11, 2011, through August 26, 2011.

Being on Forest Road No. 24N28 (Slate Creek Road), from its intersection with Forest Road No. 24N29, then north to its intersection with Forest Road No. 24N20, as shown on Exhibit A.  
36 CFR 261.54(e)

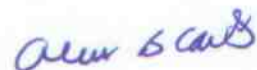
Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Persons with a contract from the Forest Service authorizing work on the closed road to the extent authorized by contract.
3. Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

This prohibition is in addition to the general prohibitions found in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

A violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571 and 3581.

Done at Quincy, California this 20 day of April, 2011.



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Alice B. Carlton  
Forest Supervisor  
Plumas National Forest

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Forest Service  
Pacific Southwest Region

DECISION MEMO  
AND  
CIVIL RIGHTS IMPACT ANALYSIS

FOREST SERVICE ROAD 24N28 TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

Mount Hough Ranger District  
Plumas National Forest  
Plumas County, CA

**DECISION**

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(b), and to ensure the safety of the public, Forest Service employees, and construction company personnel, it is my decision to institute a temporary road closure order, beginning July 11, 2011 to general public use on Road 24N28 (Slate Creek Road) between forest roads 24N20 and 24N29 located on the Mount Hough Ranger District of the Plumas National Forest. The order will remain in effect through August 26, 2011.

The above road is located in Sections 30 and 31, T 24 N, R 9 E. The closure period will start July 11, 2011 and will remain in effect through August 26, 2011. The closure will remain in effect 24 hours a day during the closure period. During work hours, unauthorized individuals are in jeopardy from construction equipment and hazards associated with other general construction activities. They also represent a danger to the construction personnel who may be distracted by dealing with members of the public while engaged in dangerous work. The closure is also necessary during non-work hours (24 hours) because incomplete construction activities result in danger zones such as open trenches, dirt piles, and potential landslides. The area needs to remain closed until the banks are allowed to stabilize and the hazards are mitigated.

**SCOPING AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

Due to the nature of the proposal, scoping was limited to contacts with Forest Service personnel on the Plumas National Forest.

**MANAGEMENT DIRECTION**

This analysis is guided by the Plumas National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Approved 1988). The Forest Plan incorporated the Record of Decision.

The Plan provides forest-wide planning direction to guide all natural resource management activities. It establishes standards and guidelines for the Forest. It describes resource production, management, and the availability of lands for resource management.

**REASONS FOR CATEGORICALLY EXCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION**

The environmental impact of the proposed action is minimal. A biological evaluation/assessment does not need to be prepared because this is an administrative action that has no effect on the threatened, endangered or sensitive species that are known to exist within the project area. Cultural resources are expected to exist within the vicinity of the project area, but will not be affected due to the administrative nature of the action.

Based on the above information, it is my determination that this activity will be of limited size, duration and degree of disturbance. I find the proposed action qualifies under provisions of FSH 1909.15 31.12(1) "Orders issued pursuant to 36 CFR 261 – Prohibitions to provide short term resource protection or to protect public health and safety."

Past experience and environmental analysis reveal that no extraordinary circumstances exist that might cause the action to have significant effects upon the human environment. This proposed action is therefore excluded from further documentation in either an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

#### **FINDINGS REQUIRED BY OTHER LAWS**

I have determined that this action is also consistent with the Plumas National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan approved in 1988, and with the vegetative management requirements of the National Forest Management Act of 1976.

#### **CIVIL RIGHTS IMPACT ANALYSIS**

##### **Purpose**

The purpose for developing a social impact analysis is to provide the Forest Service decision maker information concerning potential civil rights impacts of the proposed action. Civil rights impacts are those that could affect the agency's ability to ensure equal opportunity in employment and in delivery of programs and services.

The road closure will prevent the public from entering upon and using a small area of the Plumas National Forest. This will impact hikers, campers, and other individuals who wish to recreate on or otherwise use this area.

##### **Favorable Impacts**

The proposed action would:

- Promote public safety by restricting general public access to an area that is unsafe due to ongoing construction activities.
- Promote safety of construction company employees engaged in dangerous work within the construction areas.
- Permit access to fire fighting, emergency, and other exempted users.

##### **Unfavorable Impacts**

The proposed action would temporarily prohibit general public access to lands and roads in and surrounding the affected segment of Road 24N28.

##### **Social Impacts**

The potential impact to general forest users and recreationalists using this area is recognized. The proposed action does not impose any unreasonable adverse impacts on the civil rights of any individuals. The historical use of this area is moderate. Use by persons with disabilities is quite rare. This closure is for a short period of time and should not impose any unreasonable adverse impacts on the civil rights of any individuals. The overall benefits are reasonable, as compared to the unfavorable impacts. The action is temporary in nature and thus is not irreversible.

##### **Net Civil Rights Impact**

Weighing access restrictions and resource protection and safety, the recommendation is to go forward with the proposed action. The negative civil rights impacts are acceptable.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION DATE**

Implementation of this proposal will take place July 11, 2011.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

This decision is not subject to appeal pursuant to regulations codified at 36 CFR 215.8a(4).

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To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250, or call 1-800-245-6340 (voice) or (202)720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

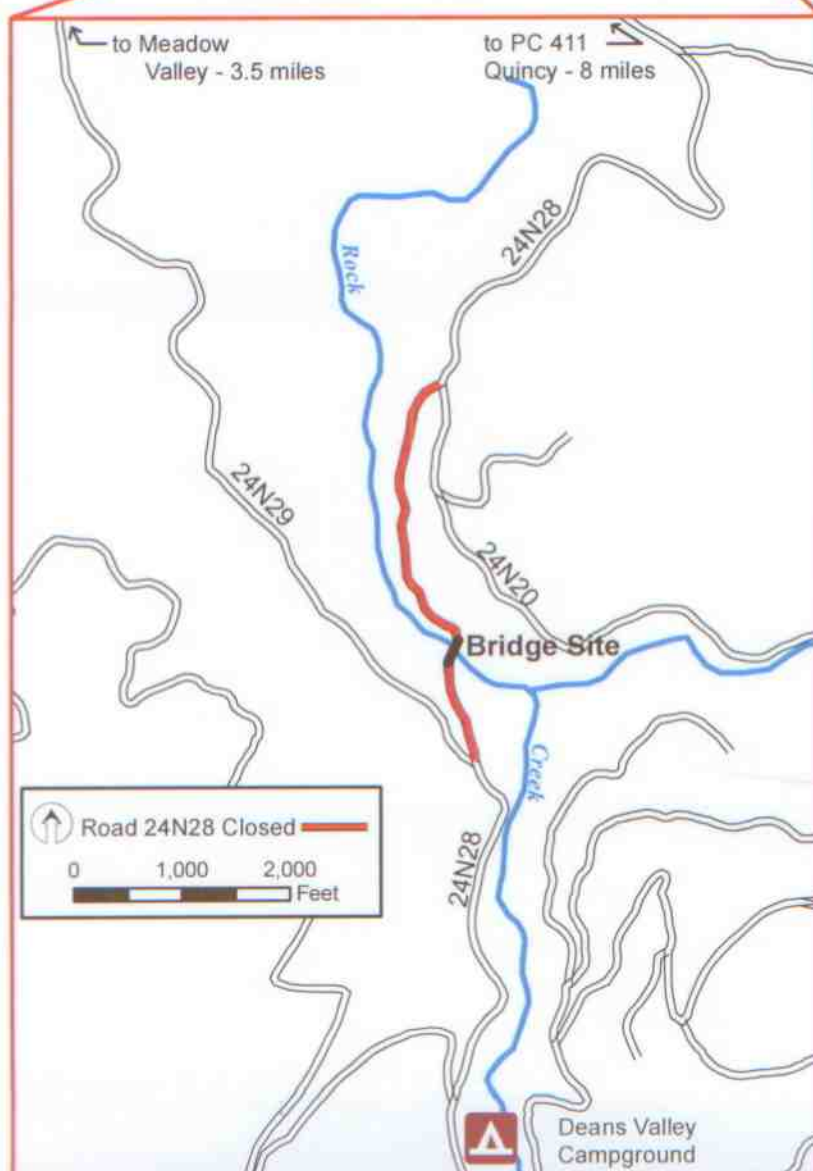
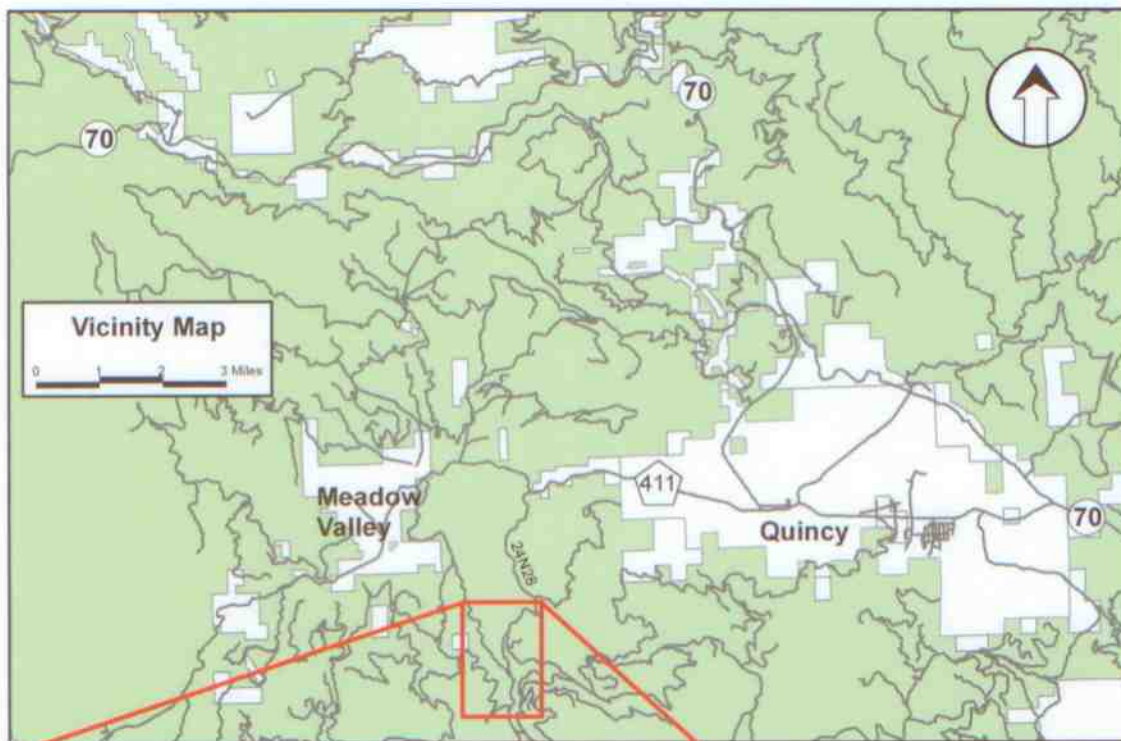
**CONTACT PERSON**

For further information contact: Peggy Gustafson, Public Services Staff, Mount Hough Ranger District, 39696 State Hwy. 70, Quincy, CA 95971 ; phone (530) 283-0555.

*Alice B. Carlton*

Alice B. Carlton  
Forest Supervisor  
Plumas National Forest

Date: April 20, 2011



**Exhibit A**  
**Forest Service Road No. 24N28**  
**Closure**

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**Mount Hough Ranger District**  
**Plumas National Forest**

